



[K4GSO.us](http://K4GSO.us)

# *The Oracle*

## Newsletter of the Silver Springs Radio Club

*Oldest Radio Club in Marion County, FL*



June 2022

### President's Message

Bill Gillespie, KW5BG

We are almost halfway through the year and the temps tell us summer is here! It's been a busy first half and the second half looks to be just as busy.

I want to congratulate Elbert, KQ3K, and all his helpers for organizing a successful Tailgate! It looks like we will be continuing this in the future, so if you have feedback (positive and less than positive) provide it to me or Elbert so next year's event can be even more successful.

I know we've been talking about the radio room upgrade for a while, but check out the new ceiling and light fixtures. We are now awaiting the install of a new air conditioner and the ground box that Andy, NA4DA has built for the new equipment for the room. Also, any support you would like to provide toward the internet for the room would be appreciated. Thanks to all who have already helped.

Elbert, KQ3K will provide more information, but support our 2022 Field Day activities. Whether you are operating or not, be sure to stop by and support those who are. This year's effort will look quite a bit different with our dispersed operating locations.

Our efforts of working with the First Christian Church Boy Scout Troop in getting their Radio Merit Badges and Technician licenses have yielded 2 new Techs. We are continuing to work with the rest of the troop members and leaders and expect to see more succeed in getting their licenses and hopefully move on to General.

As mentioned last month, hurricane season is upon us. There are several organizations in our county that can use our support during any weather event. Of course, our club supports the county ARES organization. You can participate in the weekly ARES/SkyWarn net on Wednesdays and their practice traffic net at 2000 Mon following the club net (on 145.330 CERT repeater). Additionally, the county needs ham radio operators to

### Next Meeting

**Tuesday, June 21**

**Green Clover Hall**

*319 SE 26th Terrace, Ocala*

**6:00 PM Mentoring & Socializing**

**7:00 PM Meeting**

**Program: Firming Up Field Day**

**SSRC Board of Directors** first Tuesday, 7:00 PM,  
Green Clover Hall

### Upcoming Events

**Field Day — June 25-26**

**VE Testing — July 12**

### KK4ECR is NFL Section Manager

ARRL Letter for May 26, 2022

Scott Roberts, KK4ECR, will become SM on **July 1**. He has been serving as the Assistant Section Manager and Public Information Coordinator for the Section. He'll succeed Kevin Bess, KK4BFN, who decided not to run for a new term.



### Silver Springs Radio Club Net

**K4GSO Repeater, 146.610, PL 123**

**Mondays at 7:30 PM**

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support area shelters. If you have any interest in helping in this way, let me know. We can work to get you in a school shelter near your home. The Hospital Group can always use help as well. If interested, contact Dave, W2SRP. Their net is Wed, 2000 following the ARES net.

## Membership/Events

Elbert Wilkinson, KQ3K, Membership & Events Chairman

### TAILGATE JUNE 4, 2022 – A SUCCESS:

Our Tailgate by all accounts was a success! We had a good turnout and made a little money to help fund the addition of the new DMR repeater that will be eventually installed at Green Clover Hall. Since this was the first standalone Tailgate the club has hosted in at least a decade (excluding Hamfest), it was a learning experience as well on things we can improve on in the future.

Club volunteers arrived at 7:00am to setup with vendors and some attendees arriving well before the 8:00am scheduled arrival. By 9:00am, most vendors were setup and it was game on. Attendee traffic was steady but trickled down towards noon as the summer heat began building. By noon, things were pretty much over and we shut down.

We had a great team effort to pull Tailgate off with very few glitches. Vendor parking was directed by Bruce WA4IPU, Angelo KO4IPV and Terry KN4FMH. Attendee parking was directed by Rob W4FKR and Mel KG7LQQ. Food (donuts, coffee, water, softdrinks and ice) were handled by Marty N4GL, Wayne N4FP and Jim KN4MIV. Izzy KT4WA provided shade via his Clam Tent. Hayden N2HAY provided talk-in support and helped work the crowd. This great team is responsible for the success of Tailgate. Great job and many thanks for their hard work! See pictures later in the newsletter.

### FIELD DAY 2022

Field day is almost here. Mark the dates: June 25 and 26. In the past few years, we have limited our operation to Green Clover Hall. This allowed us to maybe operate as a class 4A club. However, we were constrained by the physical limitations of that location and could not add more stations. In an effort to increase the operating stations and our class, we contacted the county's Facilities Management department to explore the use of additional outside areas for "field" stations. This will allow for additional space for antennas to be placed and hopefully interference significantly reduced. The county approved with certain limitations. As a result, with the GCH stations and four or five "field" stations, we will operate, assuming no changes, as a 7A or 8A.

As previously noted, this is a great event to participate in various roles. We need folks to help set up on Friday evening, Saturday morning, relief radio operators and takedown help on Sunday afternoon. More details to follow at the June General Meeting

Our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration (24-25 Sep), special event station, will be a big event using our Perry Field location. We need operators and some help getting the facility ready for use. So, when dates are announced for those activities, please support them.

where the Field Day operation plan will be presented. It's not too late for you to sign up if you are interested in working or helping out at Field Day, please sign up here: <https://k4gso.us/fieldday22/>

### HAMFEST 2022:

Save the date – December 2<sup>nd</sup> for setup and December 3<sup>rd</sup> for Hamfest. Location will again be at First Christian Church, Ocala. Preliminary plans are already completed. Once we get through Field Day, things will spin up. Stay tuned to *The Oracle* and club meetings for more details as we get closer to the event.

### HAM HACKS:

Have you ever spent a lot of time working FT8 and felt like your retinas were getting fried from looking at all the white space on the main screen? Well, help is on the way! Did you know there is a DARK mode. It is built into the program but you have to know how to set it up. It is really simple to do. Follow instructions found here:

<https://gm6nx.com/wsjt-x-dark-mode/>



**Every year at Field Day,  
Technician, General, Extra  
Class...they all taste the same.**

Tnx kc5cmx



## SSRC Members Participate in Camporee

Hayden Kaufman N2HAY, Gray Moffett, KC3DWY

### Hayden N2HAY reports:

Part of the ARES mission includes serving community organizations in educating and logistical support during non-emergency community-oriented events. EC Hayden Kaufman N2HAY received such a call on the 10th of May. Lake County ARES Emergency Coordinator Jamey McKinley W4CGX was in need. Jamey needed a few good men to assist with a vital mission - teaching Scouts about radio, and helping them learn how radio works when cell-phones and landlines do not. Hayden put out the word, and a team was organized. On Saturday the 14th, AEC Carl Berry KC5CMX, AEC Angelo Minnulli KO4IPV and AEC Gray Moffett KC3DWY along with Hayden took the relatively short trip out to Paisley and Camp La-No-Che, the site of the Central Florida Council Centennial Camporee.

Upon arriving, they were met by Jamey, and brought out to their assigned location. Ken Lyons KN4MDJ, the ARRL-NFL Youth Coordinator and organizer of Radio Scouting US had already deployed his stations, tracking the ISS and demonstrating how radio can reach space. There were others setting up a CW demonstration for the younger Scouts, as well as demonstrations of DMR and HF. Our team worked to assist Scouts with a mini-GOTA project. Older scouts were required to make a radio contact to complete the area task list. Inside the luxurious Lake County ARES trailer, Hayden acted as control operator for the eager Scouts to make their calls. Some were made across the demo area to Gray, Angelo and Carl, and others were made to members of the Lake Amateur Radio Association via the K4FC repeater. Over 3000 Scouts attended the event, with most of them making their way through our demo areas.

### Gray KC3DWY adds:

Just a couple of notes. The older scouts had a booklet that we signed off on after their completion of the radio section. Our signature meant a badge for their shirt. There were quite a few questions from the scouts as they perused the radio equipment.

The repeater the radio connected to, a computer for email, and the ARES trailer were all manned predominantly by our team during our day there.

The count I heard was around 5000 campers. That area was screaming packed with scouts.

At least my blue truck made it in a photo.



Angelo KO4IPV, Left, explains a handheld to a camper. Note Gray's truck in the background!



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Pictures courtesy of Gray KC3DWY & Hayden N2HAY



## Trader's Page Redo

Carl Berry, KC5CMX

The trader's page has been rebuilt has a totally different look. The URL is <https://k4gso.us/trad/> or you can scroll down on the right side of the page to the Trader's Portion.

It is definitely easier on the eyes, easier to read and easier to use. You only need to enter your personal information once, then your last name and call for each listing after that.

Trades and want to buy is separate from the stuff for sale. The page is very well organized and much easier to read. Because the webrats are fans of Star Wars and Star Trek, there will be a few references to them throughout the site.

Please check it out and if we missed anything or you need to delete a listing, let us know.

[Carl](#), [Hayden](#), or [Gray](#), and thank you for supporting the club.

## The Villages Amateur Radio Club Technician License

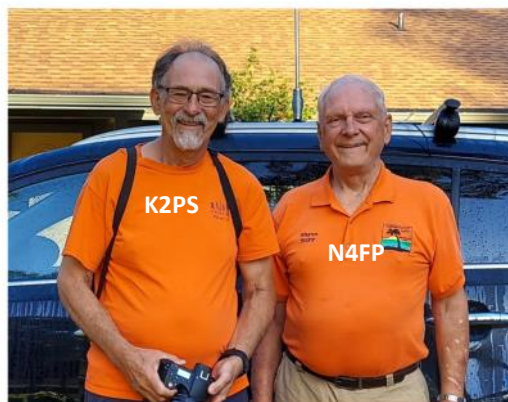
Brad Castelli, KN9B, [kn9b@arrl.net](mailto:kn9b@arrl.net)

The Villages Amateur Radio Club (TVARC) will hold a seven session Technician license course including a licensing test this fall. Classes will be held class on Monday evenings from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM, September 19th to November 7, 2022 at the Eisenhower Recreation Center, 3560 Buena Vista Blvd., The Villages, FL 32163. Text Book required: ARRL Ham Radio License Manual - 5th Edition (July 2022 to June 2026). Classes are free and open to public but YOU MUST REGISTER in advance! ARRL VEC Testing will be held November 7, normal exam fees apply. More class details and study resources are listed on the club website; [www.K4VRC.com](http://www.K4VRC.com) ("Interest in becoming a ham" tab). You are encouraged to get your friends to sign-up too, so you can study together.

## N4FP - 2022 Florida QSO Party CW Rover Summary

Wayne Brown, N4FP

Pete, K2PS and I had a relatively successful FQP weekend, even with antenna trouble on Sunday that forced an early end for us. Saturday we left The Villages and worked 16 counties to the west and north. We spent Saturday night at my QTH in Ocala. Marty, N4GL, had a welcome dinner ready for us at 10 pm. Sunday we headed northeast then towards Orlando when an antenna loading problem ended our operation with 3.5 hours remaining in the 20 hour contest. I dropped Pete off and when I reached home I was able to work 31 contacts in the last 15 minutes using a Ham Stick that Joe Rudi, NK7U had loaned us. We made 1507 CW contacts, averaging 90 per hour, in 28 counties. Our station, on a bench in the back seat, was a Flex 6400 running 100 watts to 3 Hustler antennas all mounted horizontally atop a 3 ft mast mag mounted to the roof. This gave us instant band switching. 20 meters was by far the best band with 1340 contacts, 119 on 40, and 48 on 15. Every time we hit a new county we had a new pileup. Pete ended up with 757 contacts and I had 750. The antenna problem turned out to be a rusted stud screw that connects the mast to the mag mount and feedline. It has been retired.







# ***SSRC Tailgate***

## **Newsletter of the Silver Springs Radio Club**

*June 4, 2022, Green Clover Hall, Ocala*

Photos courtesy of Izzy KT4WA, Rob W4FKR, Carl KC5CMX & Marty N4GL









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## SSRC Classified Ads

If you have a business service and want to place an ad in this section, contact Marty Brown, [n4gl.marty@gmail.com](mailto:n4gl.marty@gmail.com).

At this time we are not charging for advertising space, however the board may approve fees in the future.



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Submitted by Andy, NA4DA

### 2022 SSRC Officers

President - Bill Gillespie, KW5BG  
Vice President - Jim Burgess, KN4MIV  
Secretary - Gray Moffett, KC3DWY  
Treasurer - Tim Trombley, K8TAT  
Past President - Elbert Wilkinson, KQ3K

#### Directors:

Mike Condon - W9MNC  
Wayne Brown - N4FP  
Hayden Kaufman - N2HAY

### Club Minutes and Financial Reports

## SSRC Information

[SSRC Logo](#)  
[Shirts & Caps](#)  
[Green Clover Key Card](#)  
[Perry Field Access](#)  
[Membership Application](#)  
[Buy/Sell/Trade](#)  
[QST NFL](#) – NFL Section Newsletter  
[Silver Springs Radio Club Website](#)  
[NFL Section Website](#)  
[WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#)  
[NG3K DX](#)

### Committee Chairs

Membership & Events – Elbert Wilkinson, KQ3K  
Trustee K4GSO – Wayne Brown, N4FP  
Newsletter – Marty Brown, N4GL